

The Courier

June 8, 2022
Volume 22 Number 37



Bike event - Ocean Pine Recreation and Parks Department and the Worcester County Bike and Pedestrian Coalition teamed up to host a free community bike ride on May 14. The 14-mile ride started at 4 p.m. at the Ocean Pines Racquet Center and finished at White Horse Park.

Several Kiwanians volunteered to work the bike ride. Pictured left to right are **Shelley Cohen, Steve Cohen, Steve Greco, Sarah Walker, Patti Baglieri, Patti Stevens**, Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee Chairman. In back is **Amy Peck**, director and liaison to the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Advisory committee and **Michael Fraser**, member of the Recreation and Parks advisory committee.

Anglers to meet

The Ocean Pines Anglers Club will meet on Saturday, June 11 at 9:30 a.m. in the Ocean Pines library. Longtime local fishermen Lee Phillips and John McFalls will answer the question of “where can I fish when I have no boat?” and will cover fishing locations in the area that can be successfully fished from land. Charter trips and updated fishing issues will also be covered. All are welcome.

Chamber to host utility options forum

The Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce will host a public forum for all Ocean Pines community homeowners that will focus on all available energy supplier options on Thursday, June 9, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and the Ocean Pines library.

Representatives from electric, oil, propane, and natural gas companies will be on hand to speak with home owners about their options and cost saving tips as energy costs rise. The public is invited to attend and will have the opportunity to ask questions of all companies.

Shredding event is Saturday

AARP will sponsor a shredding event Saturday, June 11 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the parking lot of the Ocean Pines library. There is a five-box limit. You are asked to donate non-perishable food for two local food banks.

NARFE to meet

The National Active Retired Federation Employees (NARFE), Chapter 2274 Ocean Area will meet Thursday, June 23 at Denny’s located at 6104 Coastal Highway at the end of the Rte. 90 Street Bridge in Ocean City. The meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. The cost of breakfast is \$10. There will be no meetings in July and August. The next meeting will be September 22. For information call Larry Walton at 443-831-1791.

County to host job fair

Worcester County Human Resources will host a job fair on June 16 in the Worcester County Government Center’s 3rd floor training room in Snow Hill from noon to 3 p.m.

Those seeking rewarding careers in a welcoming, team-centered environment are invited to attend.

Meet with professionals from human resources and other departments to discuss career options. Computers will be available for job seekers to complete and submit applications onsite. Worcester County Government offers full benefits for fulltime employees, career advancement opportunities, and membership in the Maryland State Retirement System.

For a complete list of job opportunities, visit <https://worcesterhr.co.worcester.md.us/>. For more information, contact Human Resources Specialist Ann Hankins at 410-632-0090.

Artists sought for competition

The Worcester County Arts Council invites all artists to participate in a juried art competition and exhibit to be presented during the month of July at the WCAC Gallery located at 6 Jefferson Street in Berlin.

The exhibition is open to all established or emerging artists (18 years old and older) with work in all media.

The subject: “Celebrate” is open to the artist’s individual expression and interpretation. All entries must be original and completed within the last three years. Detailed guidelines for the competition are available on the Arts Council’s website: www.worcestercountyartscouncil.org.

Entries must be delivered to the Arts Council’s Gallery between June 28-30, 11 am - 2 pm to be accepted. Artwork will be juried in and judged for the competition by local artist and art instructor, Kate Cashman. Artists must submit a juried exhibit entry form, upon artwork delivery.

Monetary prizes will be awarded during an open to the public reception to be held on July 8 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information, please visit: www.worcestercountyartscouncil.org.



Donation

Ocean City American Legion Post 166 donated \$2,000 to the Life Crisis Center as part of its monthly program to help organizations that serve the community. In addition to the donation to the Life Crisis Center, another \$10,000 was dispensed in May, including \$6,000 to benefit three on-going programs at Atlantic General Hospital.

The mission of the Life Crisis Center is to improve the quality of life through crisis intervention and violence prevention. The organization’s professional staff serves Wicomico, Worcester, and Somerset Counties.

Receiving the donation at the Post was **Julie Landon**, Community Outreach Liaison for the Life Crisis Center. The presentation was made by Chaplain **Ben Dawson** (Left) and First Vice Commander.

Hungrytown to perform at library

After more than 15 years of world-wide touring and three album releases, Rebecca Hall and Ken Anderson, otherwise known as the folk duo “Hungrytown,” will perform at the Ocean Pines Branch of the Worcester County Library on Tuesday, June 14, at 7 p.m.

Hall and Anderson met in New York City, where they had been performing regularly: Hall as a jazz singer and Anderson as a drummer. Their introduction to folk music came later, when a close friend, who died young due to a tragic misdiagnosis, entrusted the couple with her guitar and collection of 1960s folk albums. Inspired by these traditional ballads, Hall wrote lyrics that became her first songs and Anderson assisted with musical ar-

rangements.

Now based in Vermont, “Hungrytown” spends more than half of the year on the road, particularly in North



America, Europe, and New Zealand. Their music has been featured on “The Daily Show” and “Portlandia.”

Register online at worcesterlibrary.org to attend this free concert, sponsored by the Friends of the Ocean Pines Library.

WCVMF dedicates 'The Wall That Heals' panel

By **Josh Davis**

Hundreds gathered at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines on Monday morning for a special dedication ceremony for retired "Panel West 30" of The Wall That Heals.

The panel was part of the traveling Vietnam Veterans Memorial exhibit that visited Ocean Pines last April. It was gifted to the Worcester County Veterans Memorial by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund of Washington D.C.

Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation President Marie Gilmore said the panel was retired last year because new names were added to the exhibit.

Below are remarks from Gilmore during the dedication, as well as remarks from guest speaker Ben Dawson, chaplain of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1091, and chaplain of American Legion Post 166 of Ocean City.

Marie Gilmore, president of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation:

Good morning. I am Marie Gilmore, president of the Worcester Veterans Memorial Foundation.

On behalf of the Foundation, I welcome you all to the dedication of this very special part of The Wall That Heals. To the many Vietnam veterans here today, we say "welcome home."

April 20, 2021 was a proud day for our community. After many months of fundraising and planning meetings, our community gathered and welcomed "The Wall That Heals" to Veterans Memorial Park and Ocean Pines. Escorted by more than 200 motorcycles and some cars, The Wall was greeted by hundreds of people waving flags and many with tears in their eyes. The next day, The Wall was assembled by volunteers, and over the course of the next several days was visited by over 5,000 people.

Many Vietnam veterans expressed their gratitude to us for bringing the wall to them. Many had not been able to get to Washington, D.C. To see the memorial there, and many, too many, could not get past the emotion and memories of war, to go to Washington. But here was The Wall, in their community. They came to see it, touch it, and allowed the wall to give them

comfort, for the very first time to remember their comrades who did not come home with them. We heard from family members that their husband/father/brother spoke of his time in the service for the very first time.

What an honor, and a blessing, to be a part of something so powerful! The Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation will forever be grateful for the opportunity.

"The Wall That Heals" is a three-quarter size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. It travels the country each year, giving so many communities the opportunity to visit, giving so many veterans of the Vietnam war closure. The wall is made up of 140 numbered panels, and is 375 feet in length, 7.5 feet tall at its highest point. This, the largest of all touring walls, is the only one accompanied by a mobile education center, containing the names and photos of our hometown heroes. We were proud to be able to honor the memories of our heroes from every county on the eastern shore of Maryland, Virginia and Delaware.

Shortly following the Ocean Pines visit of The Wall That Heals, three additional names were added to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., bringing the total number of known casualties to 58,281. This action necessitated the need to carve new panels for the wall in Washington, D.C. and from The Wall That Heals. We are honored to be selected as a recipient of one of the retired panels.

Panel West 30 represents casualties of the war from March 1 to March 10, 1969. Five hundred and sixteen names are inscribed on this panel. Five hundred and sixteen known casualties, now 517, with the addition of Pfc. Larry Tenda, whose remains were found and repatriated this year.

Names engraved on this panel represent casualties from every state in our nation, including 12 from Maryland and two from Delaware. Casualties are recorded from many of the 61 provinces in Vietnam, following Tet '69.

The Worcester County Veterans Memorial Foundation is proud to dedicate this panel, on Memorial Day, when we remember those who gave their lives in all wars.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Geoff Charvat and Haines Fab-



Marie Gilmore and Ben Dawson with panel

rication for creating the frame for our panel, Ben Briles of East Coast Powder Pro and Todd Dundore, American Granite and Tile. These men and their companies provided us the ability to permanently display our panel. They took such good care of it and donated their time and materials so we and future generations can learn about and appreciate the sacrifice of those whose names are inscribed on Panel West 30, as well as all those who died in Vietnam.

Ben Dawson, chaplain of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1091, and chaplain of American Legion Post 166 of Ocean City:

What a beautiful day we have to come together to this sacred place to dedicate this panel of The Wall That Heals. Panel West 30 contains the names of 516 young men who went off to war in Vietnam and never returned. Young men whose lives were

please see panel on page 15

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Juveniles charged in school threat

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office announced at a press conference last Friday that two juveniles have been charged with conspiracy to commit first degree murder and related offenses in connection with what has been deemed a targeted threat at Berlin Intermediate School (BIS).

On Wednesday, June 1, the Worcester County Sheriff's Office was contacted by Worcester County Public Schools officials about a potential threat that was brought to school administration by several students. Members of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office immediately responded and confirmed that the threat was credible.

The investigation revealed that following a verbal altercation with a classmate on social media days earlier, a 13-year-old female brought a knife to the school on June 1, and asked a fellow student to hide the weapon near the wood line outside of the school, so she could physically harm the aforementioned classmate during recess. Several students overheard the conversation and reported the information to faculty members, who in turn contacted BIS's school deputies. The deputies recovered a fixed blade kitchen knife from the suspect's backpack and immediately contacted the Worcester County Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The investigation is still ongoing and has resulted in numerous interviews, including confessions from both

suspects as to their involvement, as well as the seizure of additional pieces of evidence.

Worcester County Sheriff Matthew Crisafulli stated, "Through the combined efforts of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office, the Worcester County Bureau of Investigation, the Worcester County States Attorney's Office, and both the students and staff at Worcester County Public Schools, we have averted a potentially tragic incident. Furthermore, I can confidently state that there is currently no active threat at Berlin Intermediate School or any other school within Worcester County at this time."

Worcester County Public Schools Superintendent Lou Taylor echoed Crisafulli's sentiments, and he shared

that additional counseling and other resources will be immediately available for students and staff affected by this incident.

"In terms of this event, our safety practices and protocols were effective," said Taylor. "The importance we place on fostering trusting relationships with our students has paid dividends in terms of school safety. While we acknowledge that there is always more work to be done, I am proud to say that the system works. See something, hear something, say something. It works."

Officials praised the students who bravely came forward to report this matter to school officials.

"We are here first and foremost today to honor the bravery of several of our students, who prevented what

otherwise could have been a tragic event for Berlin Intermediate School and our entire school system," Taylor said.

Lastly, Chief Safety and Human Relations Officer Dwayne Abt asked for the public's partnership in safeguarding the privacy of those involved in the case.

"While public safety and open and honest communication with our community are our goals here today, we ask for privacy for the families and the children involved," Abt said. "The challenges that they face in coping with an event like this are significant, and we acknowledge that moving forward in a healthy fashion will be considerably easier without the spotlight of media attention."

Sports complex petition reaches milestone

The People for Fiscal Responsibility announced Friday that its petition efforts generated successful results during the first required period. In little over three weeks volunteers collected 3,064 valid signatures representing over 68% of the total 4,494 required.

The petition is designed to trigger a referendum regarding the county's plan to issue an \$11.2 million general obligation bond to fund a portion of costs related to a proposed Sports Complex on property adjacent to

Stephen Decatur High School.

Signing the petition is not a vote for or against the project. The petition simply brings the issue to the voters to decide.

In the final phase the goal is to collect at least 2,000 additional signatures by July 1. Volunteers will continue to collect signatures

throughout the county. Organizers will be on hand every Saturday at the Farmers Market in Ocean Pines and every Sunday at the Berlin Farmers Market.

For information on other signing locations or to help with signature collections please contact Slobodan Trendic at strendic@yahoo.com.

Plein air event scheduled

The Worcester County Arts Council has announced the opening of artists' registration for the Paint Worcester County, Plein air event to be held September 19 to 23.


Local and regional artists will paint outdoors at their leisure at any chosen location in Worcester County and compete for attractive cash prizes in this annual Plein air competition. Registration is open to experienced and novice painters, 18 years or older, and is limited to fifty artists.

please see event on page 15

Courier Almanac

George Orwell's novel of a dystopian future, *1984*, is published on June 8, 1949. The novel's all-seeing leader, known as "Big Brother," becomes a universal symbol for intrusive government and oppressive bureaucracy.

According to the organization American Humane, each year approximately 10 million pets are lost in the United States. In Canada, Humane Canada™ reports 38 percent of dogs and 48 percent of cats taken into shelters in 2020 were strays. Tags and additional measures to identify cats and dogs greatly increase the chances that lost pets will eventually be reunited with their owners. In fact, such measures can be the most important step pet owners take to ensure the recovery of lost pets. American Humane notes that only 15 percent of dogs and 2 percent of cats that enter shelters without tags are reunited with their owners. In addition to tags, pet owners can speak to their veterinarians about microchipping, which involves the insertion of a tiny electronic capsule beneath the animal's skin that serves a similar function as a tracking device.



Small talk

Attending a banquet not long ago, I was seated at a table with people I had not met before. They all knew each other as co-workers and though they were more than cordial when I was seated, I was a fifth wheel, at least

with couple, “how did you two meet?” Or “what brought you to this area?” Usually, these questions ignite a conversation that allows me to ask follow-up questions. Some of the best conversations I’ve had with strangers I have hardly spoken.

Getting back to me story. After the invocation and before we were called to the buffet, something very interesting occurred. I overheard a stray comment from the person sitting next to me who was talking with

a person across the table. She mentioned her dog. I asked what kind of dog she had (Labradoodle) and we were off to the races in conversation about our dogs. Eventually everyone at the table was sharing dog stories. Pictures soon circulated around the table. We shared tips on dog food brands, chew toys and training techniques.

I don’t know which topic ranks first with people: talking about their dogs or their grandchildren or their latest health ailment. I prefer talking dogs and grandchildren. Call me old fashioned but health ailments are best discussed with your doctor, not strangers at the supermarket checkout counter.

In our family, it’s common that we’ll send each other photos of our dogs when they’re doing something cute or wild or silly. My oldest son and his wife have three dogs and from time to time he’ll send a close-up photo of Ollie, a Manchester Terrier, looking straight into the camera with her big eyes, and a message such as “What’s up?” It’s sort of silly and is good for a chuckle.

Our youngest son will send video of Bombur jumping and howling at the front door. It’s funny to watch, espe-

cially when he loses her balance.

We usually get pictures of our daughter’s dog Teddy, a German Shepherd mix, when he comes home from the groomer. He always looks quite spiffy with his bandana.

Dogs are family and their characteristics and antics become etched in family lore. My wife fondly recalls her border collie Duchess she had growing up. The story that’s been told repeatedly was when, in a protective response, Duchess tackled a neighbor who, while mowing his lawn, came too near my wife and her siblings with the lawn mower.

My Dobermann Black Jack looked

very intimidating. He stood tall and had a stance that made people think twice about going near him. He was wary of strangers and could express a sort of a Clint Eastwood glare, “Are you feeling lucky, Punk?” In reality he was a real mush who loved sprawling on the sofa even if it meant pushing you off. Not long after my wife and I started dating, I brought her to my house. Black Jack heard me coming through the front door and ran to meet me. He stopped in his tracks when he saw me with someone he didn’t know. He went into his stance. Without missing a beat, my wife went right over, got down next to him and gave him a big hug and started talking to him, making a big fuss over the fact that it was his birthday. He started licking her and they were friends from then on, sometimes displacing me.

Dogs are a gift. They keep us company, listen to us when we need someone to talk to and offer affection at all times. They’re also a great conversation ice breaker when sitting with strangers. Maybe next time, I’ll bring Chooch as my Plus-one when invited to a future event. Although, he may get a better offer and go home with someone else.



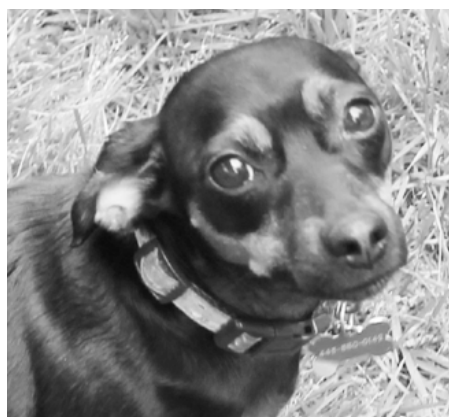
It’s All About. . .

By **Chip Bertino**

chipbertino@delmarvacourier.com

that’s how I felt. I always feel on my left foot when in a group of new people. The conversation seems stilted and disconnected. I’ve always been challenged when having to exchange small talk. Speaking publicly before large groups of strangers – no problem. In a group of three or four strangers, for reasons I can’t explain, I’m shy and uncomfortable. I’d much rather listen than speak.

Through the years, I’ve learned to ask questions to spur other people to talk, taking the pressure off me. What they have to say is more interesting to me than I fear what I would say would be to them. Sometimes I’ll ask, if I’m



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A message from OPA President Colette Horn

Pool safety tips

Whether swimming at home or in one of Ocean Pines' five pools, following a few simple safety tips can help everyone stay safer in and around the water.

Learning about safety is especially important for young children, who will carry those lessons with them throughout their lives.

Many educators and youth leaders use an American Red Cross program called "Longfellow's Whale Tales" to help teach water safety. The program includes several easy-to-remember tips:

Know and follow the pool rules

Any time you go swimming, look for posted pool rules. Read them and make sure you follow them.

Feet first the first time

Always go into the water feet first. This helps swimmers to know what's underneath them, which can help prevent dangerous situations.

Think so you don't sink

Use your head – don't panic. Learning how to float properly is an important part of any swimming lesson and should be taught early. Swimmers in peril who can float can rest until help arrives.

Reach or throw, don't go

This is especially important for younger swimmers. If another person nearby is in trouble, do not go in the water to try and save them. Doing so could put both lives in danger. Instead, reach or throw an object the person can grab onto to help them float, or pull them to safety.

Don't just pack it, wear your jacket

When boating, remember that your life jacket isn't just luggage – ensure it's in proper working order and wear it any time you're on a boat. Use only jackets that are approved by the U.S. Coast

Guard. All jackets should be marked with weight limits – follow those rules. Do not put a 90-pound child in a jacket marked for a 50-pound child, as smaller jackets are not designed to keep larger people buoyant.

Too much sun is no fun

Wear sunscreen and stay hydrated whenever swimming outdoors. If you're overheating, move into the shade.

Swim in a pair near the lifeguard chair

Inexperienced swimmers should only go into the water if there is a lifeguard on duty. Swimming in a pair is also good advice for any open water swimming, such as at local beaches. Doing so means being able to signal the other swimmer, in case you need help.

Think twice before going near cold water or ice

Do not play on or near frozen water or ice that could crack and trap even the most experienced swimmer.

Swimmers should also be aware of thunder and lightning protocols. If you hear thunder, exit the water at once and for at least 30 minutes.

If you have a pool in your yard, make sure there is proper safety equipment, including something to reach or throw to swimmers in trouble. In a pinch, most coolers float and can be used to help keep swimmers afloat until help arrives.

Ocean Pines does offer swimming lessons, but there is currently a waitlist. For more information, call 410-641-5255.

For Ocean Pines pool rules, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/aquat ics.

For more pool safety resources, visit www.poolsafely.gov.



Reading achievement - Kindergarteners at Ocean City Elementary School celebrated all the reading they have completed this year with a Medal Parade. They marched around the outside of the building showing off their reading medals as the rest of the school cheered them on.

Mary Mac Foundation seeks donations for summer programs

The Mary Mac Foundation recently announced plans to host its annual fundraising event in Ellicott City, but the organization is still hoping to raise funds in Ocean Pines.

The Mary Mac Foundation each year supports local and regional youth programs to honor Mary McMullen (1948-2012), a special education instructor at Severna Park High School and Ruth Eason School in Millersville, Maryland.

During the 1970s, she also helped establish the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department.

"Although the Mary Mac event will not be held until the last Saturday in September in Ellicott City, we're hoping that the Ocean Pines golf community and racquet community will give us donations for the summer as they have in the past," foundation co-founder Tim McMullen said. "This will help us send low-income children to summer camps like Camp Barnes in Delaware, and St. Vincent de Paul in Baltimore."

McMullen said the foundation recently received a \$1,000 grant from Choptank Electric Cooperative, which

will be donated to the Ocean Pines Recreation and Parks Department.

"We're going to take that \$1,000 grant and hand it over to [Recreation and Parks Director] Debbie Donahue and put it towards t-shirts for our summer youth programs. Mary McMullen was the founder of that program, way back in 1974," McMullen said.

The foundation has always focused on helping children and bolstering area recreation programs, but McMullen said that scope has recently grown.

"During the pandemic, we have expanded our reach to support low income and unhoused children and their families, as well as entities that offer educational opportunities to youth and adults. We have also expanded our focus to support military families through donations to the education and resiliency center at Ft. Meade, which focuses on physical, emotional, social, familial, and spiritual well-being," he said.

"We thank you for your continued

please see foundation on page 14

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Partnership initiative helps endangered birds

The partnership of Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Audubon Mid-Atlantic, and Maryland Coastal Bays Program is continuing an innovative conservation project to preserve three of Maryland's state listed endangered colonial nesting waterbirds - the Common Tern, Royal Tern, and Black Skimmer.

The project, now in its second year, is providing a floating wooden-framed platform as a nesting site for endangered colonial waterbirds, which have declined by a staggering 90-95% since the mid-1980s due to sea level rise and the erosion of their natural barren sand nesting islands in the coastal bays. The initial year of the project was an immediate success. The platform was successfully used for nesting by 23 pairs of Common Terns, making it the largest breeding colony of this species in the Coastal Bays in 2021.

"The immediate success of the project is encouraging," said Director of Bird Conservation Dr. David Curson of Audubon Mid-Atlantic. "But the fact that the largest Common Tern colony in the coastal bays system last year was on this small artificial island illustrates just how dire the situation is for these birds. In 2003, there were more than 500 pairs of Common Terns nesting at six natural colony sites in the coastal bays - today, most of these former sites have been degraded by erosion and some have been washed away entirely."

This year the partnership has expanded the size of the nesting platform from 1,024 square feet to 2,304 square feet, by adding five new raft sections to the four used in 2021. The rafts are latched together in a square formation that flexes at the joints as waves roll beneath it. This design allows the platform to safely withstand large waves and strong winds during storm events. The project team hopes the larger platform will not only support a larger tern colony, but also may attract Black Skimmers to nest alongside the terns.

The project team has also expanded in 2022. Maryland Coastal Bays Program hired Archer Larned, Ph.D., to the newly created position of Coastal Bird Habitat Coordinator to assist with the project, using funds

provided by US Wind. "We will monitor the platform closely through the 2022 breeding season," said Larned. "Early signs are encouraging. Remote cameras installed on the platform show that about 50 Common Terns are already using it for roosting, and we are hoping that nesting activity will begin soon".

Dave Brinker, of Maryland DNR Wildlife and Heritage Service, has been monitoring colonial nesting waterbird populations in Maryland since 1985.

"This project shows great promise in offering endangered colonial waterbirds much-needed nesting sites," Brinker said. "But in order to fully recover and sustain populations of terns and skimmers in the coastal bays it is essential that we restore and maintain former sand islands that have been lost to erosion. To achieve that we will need a long-term strategy that allocates locally dredged sand for island restoration."

DNR's Wildlife and Heritage Service is providing technical assistance, materials, and funding through federal Pittman-Robertson funds that the state receives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Match for these federal funds comes from Maryland Program Open Space funds used to purchase land for state Wildlife Management Areas and from the Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species fund (state income tax checkoff). Audubon Mid-Atlantic and Audubon's Seabird Institute are providing technical support and assistance with planning, coordination, and raft construction under a contract with DNR. Maryland Coastal Bays Program is assisting with local support, planning, coordination, and providing local volunteer assistance.

"Addressing the population declines of these important bird species is a high priority for our department and our partners," said Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. "We are pleased to support innovative measures and long-term efforts to give them the best possible chance to rebound."

For more information on this project contact Archer Larned at alarned@mdcoastalbays.org or by calling 40-213-2297 ext.107.

Continue.

I am running for reelection to continue representing our Ocean Pines district and to serve the entire county as I have during the past eight years with a conservative approach to county government.



During my time in office, I believe I have demonstrated a responsive, accessible, responsible and effective approach to public service; valuing community involvement and taking a conservative stand on taxpayer funded allocations.

I seek support for a another term to:

- Continue advocating for the best interests of Ocean Pines and the county as a whole;
- Continue articulating a limited county government role in the lives of county citizens; and,
- Continue working through important community issues such as ensuring the proposed sports complex is not a taxpayer-funded project, shepherding the county-wide broadband initiative and developing a stable funding formula for Fire/EMT operations.

Reelect

Chip Bertino

Commissioner Chip Bertino

Ocean Pines District 5



Authority: Bertino for Commissioner; Susan Bertino, Treasurer



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Margins

There is always a margin of uncertainty between published guidelines and catastrophic disaster. A bridge with a posted weight limit of 10 tons will not collapse if you drive over it with 20,000 plus one-pound vehicle. The margins of safety have to allow for the possibility of two 10-ton vehicles may pass in opposite directions so your 20,001-pound monster will probably survive within the engineering margins but it will draw the attention of the local authorities.

How often are we tempted to exceed the limits just a little bit because we are seduced by the situation? The annual Ocean City over-the-water air show is one such moment. It is again scheduled for the second weekend in June and although the view is great from the 15th street beach, it can be even more spectacular and unobstructed from a boat either in the ocean or back in the bay.

There is, however, a downside to watching the air show from a boat: Everyone is your friend and wants to join you for the day. The problem becomes over loading. There is a capacity plate on every recreational boat that defines both the weight and person limits of the boat. These limits are sometimes loosely interpreted in the excitement of an air show day.

So, what happens when you exceed the limits? The capacity weight limit is not the threshold where the boat will lose buoyancy and sink. There are safety margins factored in. When you exceed the boat's published limits the boat will sit very low in the water – below its water line. It will also be very sluggish to maneuver, and susceptible to being swamped by heavy seas or capsized in the wake of a passing boat or everybody running to one side to see a dolphin. The expression 'an accident waiting to happen' should come to mind.

The occupancy limitation is usually

determined by the number of seats, for example, six seats, six passengers. Just like an airplane or a Greyhound bus, standing room only is not permitted. This is a little tough to enforce among friends on a special day especially when there's lots of walking around room and gunwales and fore-decks to sit on but that's how guests, even sober guests, fall overboard.

And if one of those boats with the flashing blue lights comes along side, the officer may want to see your capacity plate and also make everyone on the boat hold up a suitable life

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MODEL: SW 2086TT-25

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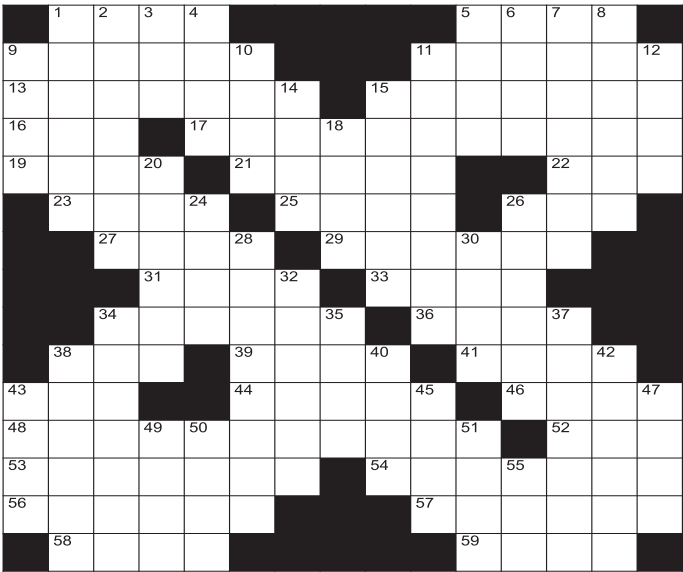
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jacket. If you cannot comply, expect to be escorted off the water as a minimum. If you're confrontational, expect a citation.

But the more insidious dilemma is overweight. The capacity plate also defines the maximum allowable weight i.e. the total weight of passengers, gear, and motors. The issue is that the boat must comply with both the number of persons-on-board *and* the total weight. So, for example, if your boat had a capacity of 1,000 pounds and a seating capacity of eight, then the average weight of the passengers would, at first blush and quite naively, have to be 125 pounds (1000/8 = 125). In our high caloric society, the only way you can take eight folks out legally in this scenario is to befriend the local chap-

please see *knots* on page 13



CLUES ACROSS

1. Slovenian mountain

5. Growl

9. Where things stand

11. Made a sharp sound

13. Female spirit in Irish folklore

15. Deteriorate with age

16. A way to save for retirement

17. The Big Apple

19. Intestinal pouches

21. City in New Hampshire

22. Giving a bad impression

23. Samsung laptops

25. Without (French)

26. Scientist's tool (abbr.)

27. System of one more computers

29. Captures

31. Authentic
33. Female mammal's nipple

34. Pandemonium

36. Satisfy

38. Arrived extinct

39. Shipborne radar (abbr.)

41. Network of nerves

43. Monetary unit

44. Showed old TV show

46. They help you hear

48. One who eliminates

52. Congress' investigative arm

53. Parties

54. Most supernatural

56. Takes illegally

57. Breathes while asleep

58. Sea eagles

59. German surname

CLUES DOWN

1. Looks at for a long time

2. Solution for diseases

3. Belonging to a thing

4. Former Packers fullback

5. Contemptible person

6. One billionth of a second (abbr.)

7. Helps

8. Final section of the large intestine

9. Invests in little enterprises

10. Look for

11. Unbeliefs

12. Susan and Tom are two

14. Female sheep

15. A poet writes it

18. Affirmatives

20. "Full House" actress Barber

24. Traveled rapidly
26. Long upholstered seat

28. Set wages

30. Peter Gabriel song

32. Sides of a jacket

34. More beautiful

35. Actress Kate

37. Furniture with open shelves

38. Indicate

40. The cost of a room

42. Gets rid of something

43. Impudence

45. No No No

47. Drunkards

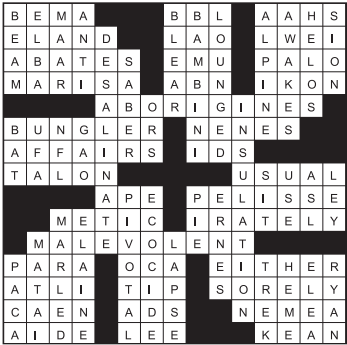
49. Middle eastern country

50. High energy lasers (abbr.)

51. Primary component of ribosomes

55. An informal debt instrument.

Answers for June 1



The basics of container gardening

Gardening is a rewarding hobby that has been linked to health benefits like reduced stress and improved mental well-being. Gardening also can lead to an inviting home landscape full of attractive blooms and/or delicious foods.

Backyard gardens have long been planted after clearing a plot of land, tilling and amending the soil, and planting rows of favorite crops. However, gardening can be less labor-intensive and even more successful when people consider the many benefits of container gardening.

What is container gardening? As its name implies, container gardening is growing plants inside of containers. These containers can be flower pots, rectangular deck boxes or even large raised garden beds.

Pros to container gardening. One of the advantages of container gardening is that plants can be moved in and out of sunlight to ensure the right growing conditions. This isn't as easily achieved when gardens are stationary. Also, beginner gardeners may be more able to control soil conditions inside of a small container rather than a vast ground-based garden, which will require a good deal of manual labor. Pots and boxes also can be grouped together to create eye-popping displays, usually at lower costs than the sheer volume of plants that would be needed to fill out an expansive landscape.

Cons to container gardening. Container garden plants will not have direct access to the ground, so they need gardeners to create the ideal growing conditions. Developing the right care formula can be challenging. The home and garden resource The Spruce says that drainage is an important factor in container gardening, and most containers do not offer enough drainage holes. If water cannot escape the soil, the roots of the plants can rot and die. It's not enough to add stones or gravel to the bottom of containers. Drill additional holes in the bottom (1½-inch in diameter for small or medium-sized pots; one inch in diameter for larger pots). Also, be sure to check on soil moisture so that watering can be adjusted. During hot stretches, plants may need to be watered more frequently.

Plan for plants that play well. Grouping plants together can create

visually stunning combinations. However, it is important to choose plants that require the same amount of light and moisture. Look at plant tags when visiting the garden center and select complementary plants, or ask a store employee. Mixing different plant shapes, colors and leaf textures, as well as plants of various heights, can help containers look filled out.

Feed plants accordingly. Plants need nutrition to thrive in containers. Quality potting mixes will contain fertilizers, but nutrition will wane over time. Every couple of weeks, container plants will need either fresh potting mix or granular fertilizer added to feed them. Oregon State University Extension Services suggests using a slow-release fertilizer or worm castings several times throughout the season.

Container gardening is a great way to add plants to smaller patios, reduce the workload involved in maintaining expansive gardens, and customize conditions for optimal growth.

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Some things to think about

Gathered from the internet by **Jack Barnes**

"What did our parents do when they were bored before the internet?"

I asked my 26 brothers and sister and they didn't know either.

www.facebook.com/Humormeetscomics2

MY PARENTS SPANKED ME AS A CHILD

AS A RESULT, I NOW SUFFER FROM A PSYCHOLOGICAL CONDITION KNOWN AS "RESPECT FOR OTHERS"


Kids today will never know what it was like to take a ton of pictures



And have to wait a week to find out they were useless

When a kid says "daddy, I want mommy" that's the kid version of "I'd like to speak to your supervisor" 😂😂

I ASKED MY GRANDDAUGHTER TO FETCH ME A NEWSPAPER. SHE LAUGHED AND SAID "GRANDDAD YOU ARE SO OLD, JUST USE MY PHONE."



SO I SLAMMED HER PHONE AGAINST THE WALL AND KILLED THAT BIG HAIRY SPIDER



Gov. candidates - The Republican Women of Worcester County held their general meeting and luncheon on May 26 at the Restaurant at Lighthouse Sound in Bish-
opville. Maryland Gubernatorial candidates were invited to speak. Pictured from left to right are **Robin Ficker** - candidate, **Liz Mumford** - first vice president, **Sandy Zitzer** - president, **Diana Waterman** - representing candidate Kelly Schulz, and Delegate **Dan Cox** - candidate. To learn more about Republican Women of Worcester County, visit www.gopwomenofworchester.org.

Giddyup to model horse shows in Ocean Pines

Model horse shows hosted by Rainbow's End Tack Shop are returning to the Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market.

Model horse showing is a hobby built around the collection of scale model horses, with a focus of honoring horse show industry standards, as well as the artistic merit of the plastic miniatures.

"These are friendly model horse competitions – where there are no horse hauling hassles," Tack Shop owner Ingrid Parker said with a laugh. "Our marketplace shows are open to veteran showmen and those that have never been shown before. Come on out and give it a try!"

Parker is a professional horse show judge that officiates events in the Mid-Atlantic region. She also enjoys officiating model horse shows across Delmarva.

"Don't hesitate to visit us before the show with questions and let us know that you are new to showing," she said. "We'll give you some tips on placing the model in the show ring and

getting you ready to have some fun." Park will award ribbons for first through sixth place, with the champion earning a scrumptious baked good from a market bakery.

The shows are open to children and adults of all ages and are scheduled on June 11, July 30 and August 27.

Registration for each show is \$5 per participant. The competition starts at 9:30 a.m. Participants must bring their own table and table covering to present on.

The Ocean Pines Farmers & Artisans Market is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in White Horse Park.

For more information, visit www.oceanpines.org/web/pages/farmers-artisans-market.



Visiting

Tampa, Florida

By **Kurt and Jean Marx**

If you like sports, Tampa is an excellent city to visit. It is home to the Super Bowl-winning Buccaneers, the Stanley Cup-winning Lightning as well as Major League Baseball's Rays. If you prefer college sports, the University of Tampa, the University of South Florida, and Florida Southern College provide additional sports opportunities for you to try. The area also has minor

league sports and hosts spring training for the New York Yankees and the Philadelphia Phillies.

There are several comedy clubs including Sidesplitters Comedy Club and Snappers Grill and Comedy Club. We really enjoyed Snappers. The food was surprisingly good and the venue is small, so you are relatively close to the comedians no matter where you sit. If you decide to go, we encourage you to check

Groupon, as we were able to cut our ticket prices by 33%.

There are numerous beaches in the area. Our favorite was Honeymoon Island State Park, located at #1 Causeway Boulevard in Dunedin. The \$8 entry fee per car is well worth it. There are numerous hikes and excellent opportunities for bird watching as well as fishing and kayaking. The water, even at the end of December, was pretty warm and it is fairly shallow making it safe for kids. Rather than renting an umbrella and beach chairs, you are probably better off buying chairs at Walmart. For food, you can bring your own food or go to the cafe. The cafe is fairly basic but the food was good and the staff was very friendly. We enjoyed sitting in the shade on the deck having a hot dog and looking at the beautiful view.

The Tampa Riverwalk is a 2.4-mile walkway along the river. Please keep in mind that significant sections of the walkway are not protected by shade and can be very hot during the middle of the day. There are restaurants and bars along the riverwalk, but we recommend going to Sparkman's Wharf where there is an expansive lawn with seating overlooking Garrison Channel. There is an outdoor stage that features local bands and a huge LED screen that shows Tampa Bay Lightning games and movies.

Another positive of the riverwalk is that you can pick up the free Teco Streetcar and head into Ybor City. Ybor City is a National Historic

Landmark District, and it is reminiscent of the New Orleans French Quarter or the Riverwalk in San Antonio. It's a very walkable city with cobblestones and beautiful old buildings. The city was founded by Vicente Martinez-Ybor in 1885. The former center of cigar manufacturing hosts an eclectic mix of restaurants and bars. Almost any cuisine or experience you are looking for is available. One place you should absolutely try is the Columbia Restaurant. It was founded in 1905 by Cuban immigrant, Casimiro Hernandez, and his family has owned it ever since. The interior is stunning, the food is fabulous, and the staff is friendly and attentive. We enjoyed tapas and sangria and both were fantastic. We would venture to say that no trip to Tampa would be complete without stopping at the Columbia Restaurant.

If you want to learn more about Ybor City, we encourage you to visit the Ybor City Museum State Park at 1818 East Ninth Avenue. The museum is open Wednesdays through Sundays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and costs \$4 per person to get in. The museum has a picturesque, Mediterranean-style garden. Additionally, the museum highlights the lives of the immigrants who built Ybor City and its world-renowned cigar industry. You can even view the actual homes of the cigar workers, called casitas or "little houses." We hope you find Ybor City to be as interesting and fun as we did.

knots

from page 10

ter of Anorexia Anonymous.

So what are realistic passenger weights? Well, the Federal Aviation Administration uses 199 pounds for male adults, 179 pounds for female adults and 82 pounds for children for calculating commercial airline loads. These numbers are slightly high because the FAA include a 10-20-pound allowance for carry-on luggage but we're still looking at 180 pounds for adult males and 160 pounds for adult females.

The problem is further exasperated by the fact that the capacity plate states the total allowable additional weight as defined by the hull manufacturer. Besides the passengers you have to account for the gas, the picnic cooler, the life jackets, the anchor(s), the bottle of suntan lotion and the outboard engine(s) in your calculations.

For example, consider the capacity plate pictured in this column. It's from my 20' pontoon boat. Note that the hull manufacturer's gross weight limitation

is 2,166 pounds. The manufacturer then estimated the weight of everything except the passengers and fuel load to be 623 pounds and subtracted this amount from the gross to define the available weight for passengers and fuel to be 1,543 pounds. Despite inflation, gas still weighs about six pounds per gallon so a full 20-gallon tank weighs about 120 pounds, basically one small adult.



Twelve large passengers on a pontoon boat watching the OC Air Show in 2017 from the bay. Note the missing water line.

Therefore, I can provide safe passage for 8 average male adults (1,543 lbs. – 120 lbs. for gas = 1,423 lbs. And 1423 lbs. / 180 lbs. per male adult) without dabbling in that margin of uncertainty. If I am carrying female adults, children and leprechauns, then I can approach the stated seating capacity plate limits of 11 passengers. Dogs are another issue.

A good rule of thumb may be to consider the weight of your gas and use FAA guidelines to estimate the weight of your passengers. You can, however, install a scale on the dock and weigh everyone. This could be embarrassing for some lady passengers and problematic if your guests are the offensive line of Stephen Decatur High School football team. How do you tell the last 220-pound tackle in line that there is no more room? Leave the dog home?

Stay safe. Stay dry.

Dan Collins can be reached for comment at dancollins.oceanpines@gmail.com.

New exhibits featured

During the month of June, the Worcester County Arts Council will present an exhibit featuring artwork by two Gallery Co-Op Artists: Beth Cooper – watercolors and acrylic paintings; and, Lisa Marie Penn – oil and screen paintings. The opening reception of this exhibit will be held on Friday, June 10th, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The public is invited to come to meet the artists and enjoy complimentary refreshments. The exhibit will be on display through June 30.

Selected pieces of artwork, donated by featured artists, are avail-

able for bidding during the silent auction to benefit the Arts Council's Arts Scholarship program.

Visit the Arts Council's Gallery, located at 6 Jefferson Street in Berlin, Tuesday - Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to view the exhibits and place your bid.

In addition to the featured artists' exhibit, artwork created by thirty artists and members of the Co-Op Gallery is on display and available for purchase.

For more information, please visit: www.worcestercount-yartscouncil.org.

Tides for Ocean City Inlet

Day	High /Low	Tide Time
TTh 9	High	3:53 AM
9	Low	9:54 AM
9	High	4:29 PM
9	Low	10:31 PM
F 10	High	4:48 AM
10	Low	10:44 AM
10	High	5:22 PM
10	Low	11:31 PM
Sa 11	High	5:41 AM
11	Low	11:34 AM
11	High	6:14 PM
Su 12	Low	12:29 AM
12	High	6:34 AM
12	Low	12:26 PM
12	High	7:05 PM
M 13	Low	1:25 AM
13	High	7:27 AM
13	Low	1:18 PM
13	High	7:58 PM
Tu 14	Low	2:18 AM
14	High	8:20 AM
14	Low	2:10 PM
14	High	8:52 PM
W 15	Low	3:11 AM
15	High	9:15 AM
15	Low	3:02 PM
15	High	9:46 PM

foundation
from page 6

support and ask that, if it is within your means to make a donation, please consider doing so. No amount is too small," McMullen added.

Tax-deductible donations may be made to the Mary Mac Foundation at www.paypal.me/marymacfoundation or by sending a check payable to the Mary Mac Foundation, 174 Nottingham Lane, Berlin, MD 21811.

The Mary Mac Foundation Family Jam at Manor Hill Brewery is scheduled Sept. 24 from noon to 3 p.m. in Ellicott City. Donations are welcome, but the event is free to attend.

The event will include a cash bar and a food truck vendor. Outside food is welcome. To RSVP, email tim.p.mcmullen@gmail.com or call 410-294-3625.

"In 2023, we're hoping to return the Mary Mac golf tournament to Ocean Pines," McMullen said.

For more information on the Mary Mac Foundation, visit www.marymac.org.

**Donation**

Ocean City American Legion Post 166 donated \$2,000 to the Life Crisis Center as part of its monthly program to help organizations that serve the community. In addition to the donation to the Life Crisis Center, another \$10,000 was dispensed in May, including \$6,000 to benefit three on-going programs at Atlantic General Hospital.

The mission of the Life Crisis Center is to improve the quality of life through crisis intervention and violence prevention. The organization's professional staff serves Wicomico, Worcester, and Somerset Counties.

Receiving the donation at the Post was **Julie Landon**, Community Outreach Liaison for the Life Crisis Center. The presentation was made by Chaplain **Ben Dawson** (Left) and First Vice Commander.

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PELLET STOVES AND FIREPLACES

ENGINEERING



panel
from page 3

taken long before their time, in just 10 short days of each other from March 1, 1969 to March 10, 1969. Fifty-one lives per day. Hard to imagine that much loss in such a short period of time.

The only order the names are in is the date they were lost. Although just names, they were all sons, fathers, brothers and loved by so many left behind to grieve. Each have their own story and the wall provides some of their stories.

The first name on the wall is Warrant Officer Arthur A. Crosby Jr., helicopter pilot from Guilford,

Connecticut; date of birth, October 17, 1946. Arrived in Vietnam Aug. 20, 1968. Died March 1, 1969.

The last name on this wall is Col. Carter Purvis Luna, pilot from Hazelhurst, Mississippi; date of birth, September 25, 1928. Arrived in Vietnam January 2, 1969, lost on March 10, 1969. His remains were never found.

Between the first the last names are 514 more names. Each so much like the others, but also so different. Some were in country just a few days before being lost, some were just a few days away from going home, some just a day or so before or a day after their birthday.

The majority of them were be-

tween 18 and 21 years old. I know these things because I went to each name on this wall panel and read their stories. I encourage you to go to the Wall of Faces, see their photographs and read their stories.

We are truly honored to have been presented this panel, this panel that will remain here, on this spot at this veterans memorial to remind us of the terrible cost of freedom and the many sons and daughters who go off to war to preserve it. We gratefully dedicate this panel to all those inscribed here and all the other 58,281 heroes lost in Vietnam.

event
from page 4

Registration, event schedule, and artists' guidelines are available on the Arts Council's website: www.worcester-countyartsCouncil.org. Deadline to register is August 31.

Visitors can watch the artists as they set up their easels around Worcester County and paint the picturesque scenes. Visitors are also invited to attend a free and open to the public "Wet Paint" sale and exhibit, featuring work created during this event, to be held on Friday, September 23, from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Berlin public library located at 13 Harrison Avenue. All artwork will be available for sale. For more information, contact 410-641-0809.

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